



# JENNIFER ABRAMS

Jennifer is an international educational and communications consultant for schools, universities and non-profits. She trains and coaches teachers, administrators and others on successful instructional practices, new employee support, supervision and evaluation, generational savvy, having hard conversations and effective collaboration skills.

## Thinking & Learning Conference



Friday 23rd - Monday 26th May 2014

### Friday 23 May 2014

#### Sessions 2 and 3

#### Being Generationally Savvy Parts I and II

Strand: Coaching, Leadership, PLCs

Audience: Teachers & Leaders

Have you noticed you might be looking at teaching and learning a bit differently than your colleagues? Are you seeing communication challenges between colleagues of different ages? Are you becoming aware that more of your colleagues want a life-work balance vs. a work-life balance? The generational filter is coming into play on a daily basis. Who are the four generations of staff in our schools? What are their strengths and needs? What structures and communication protocols should we design to work well with each other? What knowledge do we need to help all of us thrive? This session will provide tools, resources and food for thought on this increasingly intriguing topic.

### SATURDAY 24 May 2014 (Full day)

1-DAY INSTITUTE 



#### Having Hard Conversations

##### Sessions 1, 2 and 3

Strand: Coaching, Leadership

Audience: Leaders

As administrators, coaches and teacher leaders, we often come up against situations where difficult topics must be addressed. What do we know about the best strategies for those moments? What questions should we be asking ourselves before we speak, and what environments are best for when we do speak? Based on research around conflict and interpersonal communications, this institute will provide participants with an action plan and scripting tools for having those hard conversations.

### Monday 25 May 2014

#### Session 1

#### Building Capacity in Aspiring Leaders

Strand: Leadership

Audience: Leaders

With Baby Boomer administrators retiring in greater numbers over the next decade, supporting new leaders in our schools is essential to successful succession planning. Experienced leaders need to articulate what legacy they wish to leave behind as well as learn which skills and capacities aspiring leaders need to build and foster. Utilising the work in the area of leadership development, this session will provide rubrics and recommendations for supporting the growth of aspiring leaders.

#### Session 2

#### Creating Identity Safe Classrooms for All Students

Strand: Teaching Practice

Audience: Teachers & Leaders

Creating a sense of belonging for all students in a classroom is essential to learning. What can teachers do to make students feel safe and welcome? What can teachers do to create an environment in which students feel capable and competent? In this session, participants will study the concept of "stereotype threat" through activities and readings and then learn a set of behaviours that are within the teacher's sphere of control in order to increase identity safety for all students.

#### Session 3

#### Collaboration and Leadership Skills

Strand: Leadership, PLCs

Audience: Leaders

Teachers know how to teach their core subjects, but becoming a department chair, year level leader or professional learning community leader requires a new and different set of skills. In this session participants will discuss the role of teacher leader – how to increase one's credibility, key listening do's and don'ts, how to advocate and inquire successfully, and how to give feedback effectively – all to help create a more collaborative and professional culture within departments and schools.



Learn More about **The 11th Annual Thinking & Learning Conference**  
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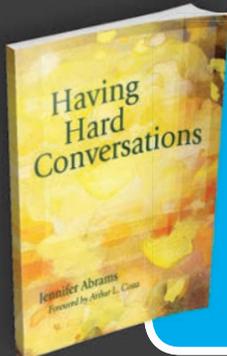


# RESOURCES

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## Having Hard Conversations

C01205 • \$32.95

Jennifer Abrams • 9781742391205

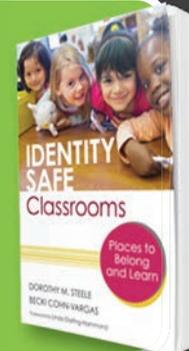
For many educators, confronting a colleague about a work-related issue can be a daunting matter. This insightful book helps educators speak with clarity and courage to directly address difficult situations within their schools. This book provides an interactive, personal approach to mastering the art of challenging conversations. The author's step-by-step strategy addresses a wide range of situations, including communication with supervisees, peers and supervisors. This book emphasises that initiative and preparation are the keys to a successful conversation. By addressing important issues directly and professionally, educators can find self-empowerment and promote an open, healthy school environment.

## Identity Safe Classrooms: Places to Belong and Learn Primary

C02038 • \$35.95

Becki Cohn-Vargas, Dorothy M Steele • 9781760012038

This book is focused on a set of strategies that have a positive effect on student learning and attachment to schooling, in spite of real and powerful social inequalities. This evidence-based book is drawn from research showing that students from all backgrounds in identity safe classrooms learn better and like school more than their peers in other classrooms. In identity safe classrooms, teachers strive to ensure that students feel their identity is an asset rather than a barrier to success at school. Primary teachers will learn the importance of teaching pro-social skills and cooperative learning in the context of high expectations and challenging curriculum. Use these strategies, rooted in social psychology research and child centred teaching practices, to build communities of learners in diverse classrooms. Invaluable teacher vignettes, reflective exercises, and practical advice make this comprehensive guide a must for creating an inclusive, academically challenging classroom.



## The Multigenerational Workplace: Communicate, Collaborate and Create Community

C02045 • \$35.95

Valerie von Frank, Jennifer Abrams • 9781760012045

You might expect the occasional age-related misunderstanding to find its way into the classroom after all, if today's kids aren't exactly from another planet, they definitely from another generation. At least you and your colleagues are all on the same page right? Not necessarily. In some schools, as many as four generations work side by side, and that means countless chances for crossed wires, miscommunication and perhaps even mistrust. Authors Jennifer Abrams and Valerie von Frank are attuned to these generational differences. In this book, based on Abrams popular workshop, the authors demonstrate how educators can look past their own generational filters to reap the benefits of seeing through a new lens. Focusing on the major contexts in which generational differences play out including recruitment, coaching, professional learning and succession planning.

### ORDER FORM

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CODE	TITLE	PRICE	QTY
C01205	Having Hard Conversations	\$32.95	
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